
REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the recent Office Action. Claims 1-17, 19-24, and 27-77 are pending. Of these claims, claims 65-71 and 73-77 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 18, 25 and 26 are cancelled without prejudice.

Applicants affirm the previous election with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-64, and election of species of claim 72.

Claims 1-64 and 72 were rejected in the Office Action. Certain claims were rejected for issues relating to section 112. Claims 1-5, 7, 9, and 17 were rejected in light of section 102 in light of U.S. Patent No. 6,001,137 to Alfekri. Claims 1, 8, 10-16, and 18-64 were rejected under section 103(a) as unpatentable over Alfekri in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,770,531 to Sudduth; 6,054,399 to Lebold, and a publication, Kirk Othmer, pp. 598-601.

Amendments have been made to more clearly define the invention, as shown above. Furthermore, amendments have been made to address the concerns regarding the use of trademarks in the specification.

Alfekri does not teach or disclose the use of a repellant finish. However, a repellant finish is provided in the claims of the invention. Claim 1 has been amended to provide for a textile substrate having a first surface with a coating. The coating includes a cationic material and a repellant finish. The repellant finish may employ a fluorochemical, a wax, a wax-metal emulsion, or an organometallic complex. Alfekri does not disclose any such repellant finish, and therefore, there is no anticipation of the invention by Alfekri.

~~Sudduth is directed to a mechanical method for softening a nonwoven web. A~~

softening additive is employed in the teachings of Sudduth. Sudduth likewise does not disclose a composition including a repellant finish in which the repellant finish comprises a fluorochemical, a wax, a wax-metal emulsion, or an organometallic complex. Sudduth does not disclose such a repellant finish. Thus, the invention is not anticipated by Sudduth.

Lebold describes a textile material with coated fibers useful in the operation of an electrophotographic printing machine to clean toner particles from a fuser roll. Lebold does not describe compositions useful for application in a digital printing process. Lebold does not teach the use of a cationic material in combination with a repellant finish. Instead, Lebold relates to a particle capture device for a fuser system of an electrostatic printing machine.

Kirk Othmer does not teach, in the context of digital printing, the use of a cationic material and a repellant finish, in which the repellant finish comprises a fluorochemical, a wax, a wax-metal emulsion, or an organometallic complex.

There is no indication in the Office Action of any teaching or express statement in the references that would counsel in favor of combining a cationic material in one reference with a repellant finish from another reference to reconstruct the invention, or otherwise render obvious the invention. Absent an express teaching or motivation to make such a combination appearing in the cited references, there can be no obviousness of the invention.

It is believed that the above claims patentably define over the prior art record and that the application is in complete condition for allowance. Should any issues

USPTO Customer No. 25280

remain after consideration of this Amendment, however, the Examiner is invited and

encouraged to telephone the undersigned at his convenience.


If it should be determined that Applicant's elected species is patentable over the cited art, it is respectfully urged that the Patent Office examine other species claims which has not been elected but which are generic to the chosen allowed claim.

Information Disclosure Statement: Please consider the references cited in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement, and note for the record that each reference has been considered for all purposes.

Fee Authorization: In the event that there are additional fees associated with the submission of these papers, Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to withdraw those fees from our Deposit Account No. 04-0500.

Extension of Time: In the event that additional time is required to have the papers submitted herewith for the above referenced application to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for any additional time required to make these papers timely and authorization is hereby granted to withdraw any additional fees necessary for this additional time from our Deposit Account No. 04-0500.

Respectfully submitted,



John E. Vick, Jr.
Registration No. 33,808

MILLIKEN AND COMPANY
920 Milliken Road, M-495
Spartanburg, SC 29303
Telephone (864) 503-1383
Facsimile (864) 503-1999